

Community Advisory Committee:
Hidden Falls North
Entrance
at Hidden Falls Crosby Farm Regional Park

March 11, 2024



SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

Agenda

Today's Agenda

UPDATES AND REVIEW

- Meeting with St. Paul Natural Resources and Outdoor Programming staff.
- Meeting with St. Paul Planning and Economic Development (PED) staff regarding Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA) rules and restrictions.
- Request for Proposals for Architectural consultant - IN PROGRESS. Proposals due 3/12.
- Entry road studies
- Site management: foraging, co-management opportunities, and Indigenous engagement

NEW MATERIAL REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

- Update Site Plan
 - » Parking
 - » Circulation
 - » Nodes
 - » Picnic Shelter
 - » Play Zone
 - » Cultural Ceremony Space
 - » Furnishings
 - » Wayfinding, signage, and interpretive panels

Project Schedule (Updated):



MAY 2024 -(EXTENDED)JUNE 2025:

- Community Engagement and Project Planning
- Community Advisory Committee



MAY - NOVEMBER 2025:

- Construction Drawings for Phase 1
 - site improvements
 - restroom and pavilion facilities



DECEMBER 2025 -AUGUST 2026:

- Bidding and Construction for Phase 1



AUGUST 2026- DECEMBER 2026:

- Design Development for Future Park Improvements



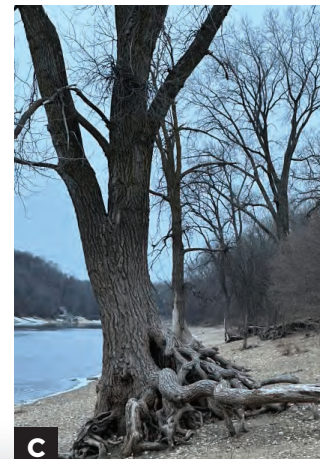
Meeting with St. Paul Natural Resources

Updates and Review



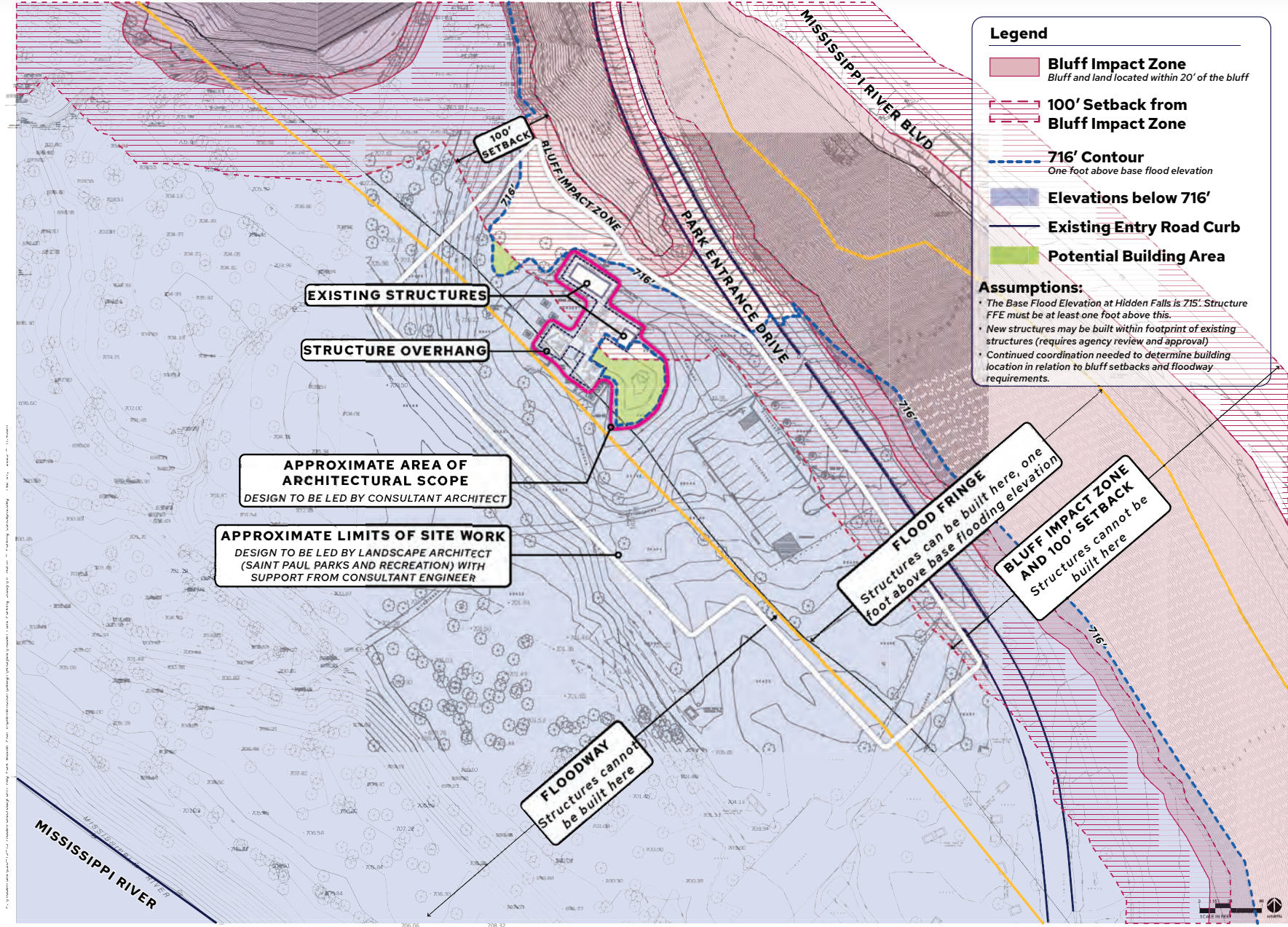
Summary

- Address invasive species with succession planting.
- Consider floodplain forests for stormwater management.
- Balance conservation with active spaces to reduce impact.
- Ensure entry road allows bus access; entry wall limits visibility.
- Add covered spaces for summer programs and kids.
- Improve road for year-round use.
- Designate nature play areas for conservation and safety.
- Install a spotting scope for eagle viewing.
- Place a portapotty near the boat launch for



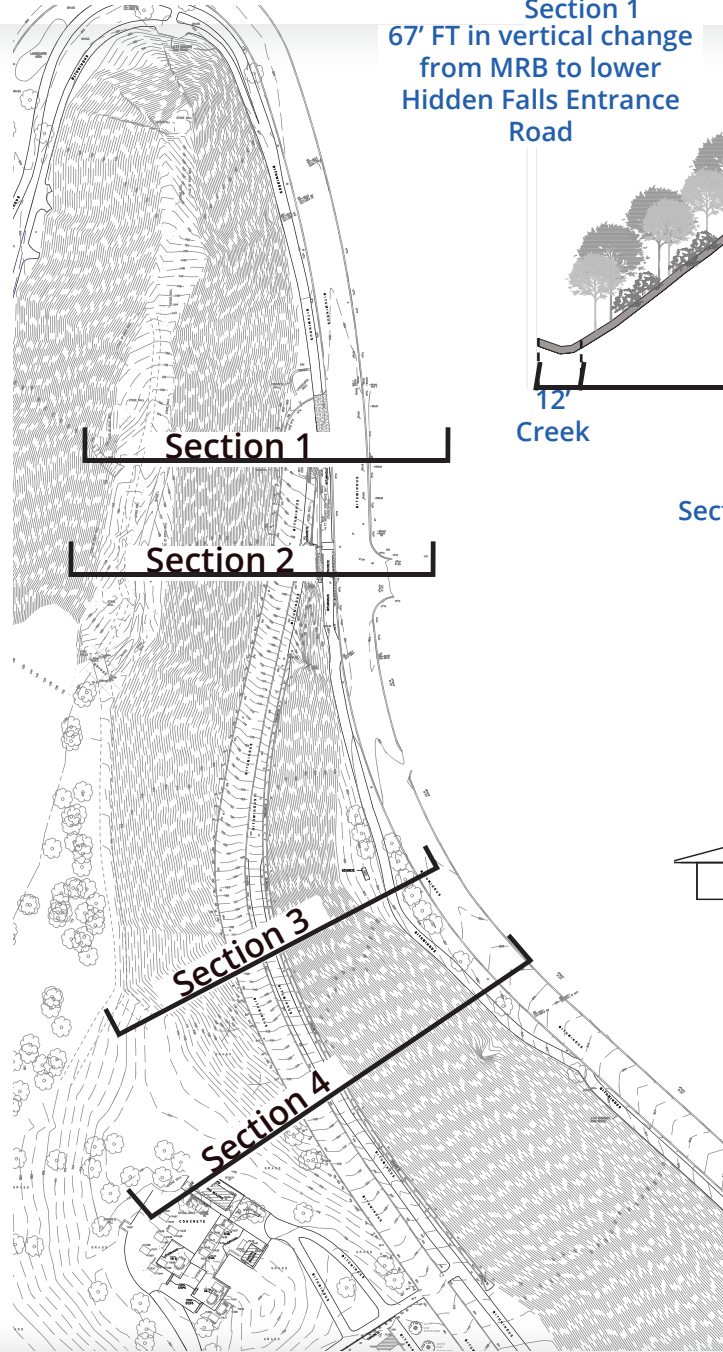
MRCCA and Other Regulatory Findings

Updates and Review

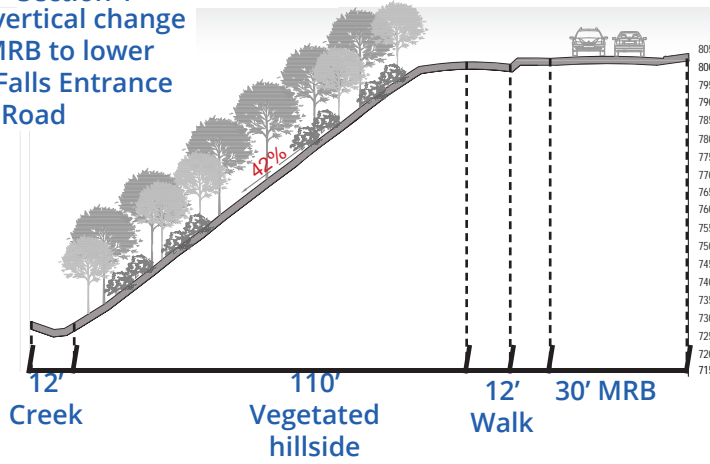


Entry Road Studies

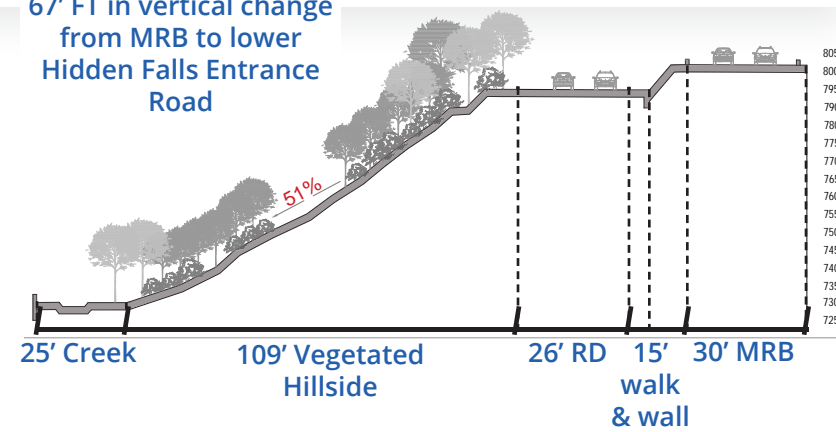
Updates and Review



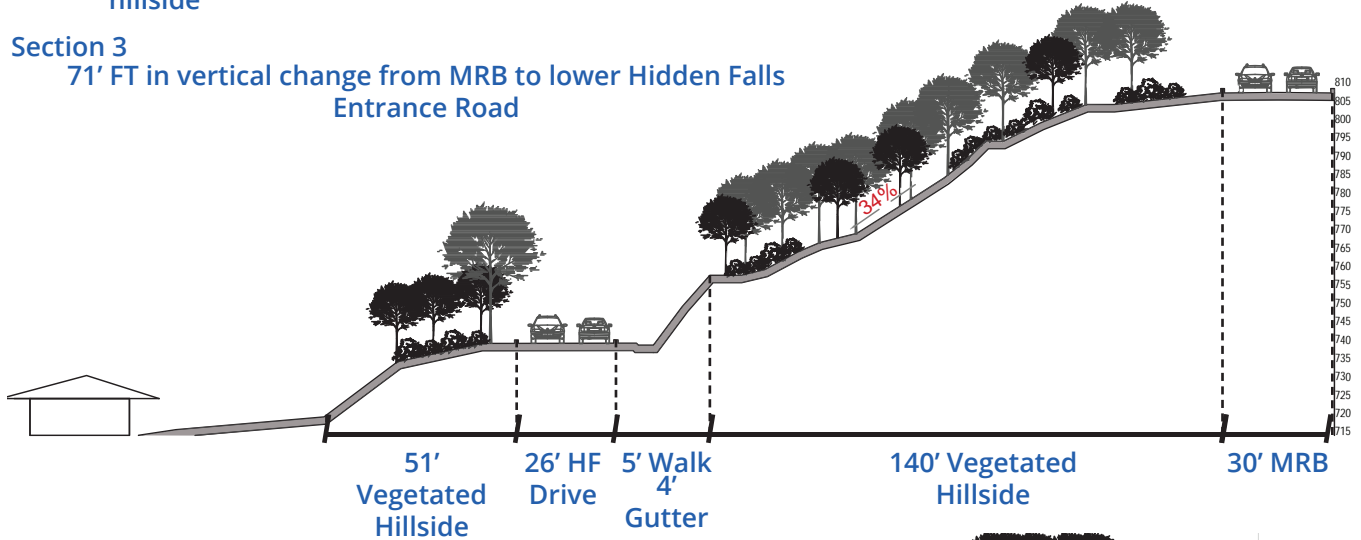
Section 1
67' FT in vertical change
from MRB to lower
Hidden Falls Entrance
Road



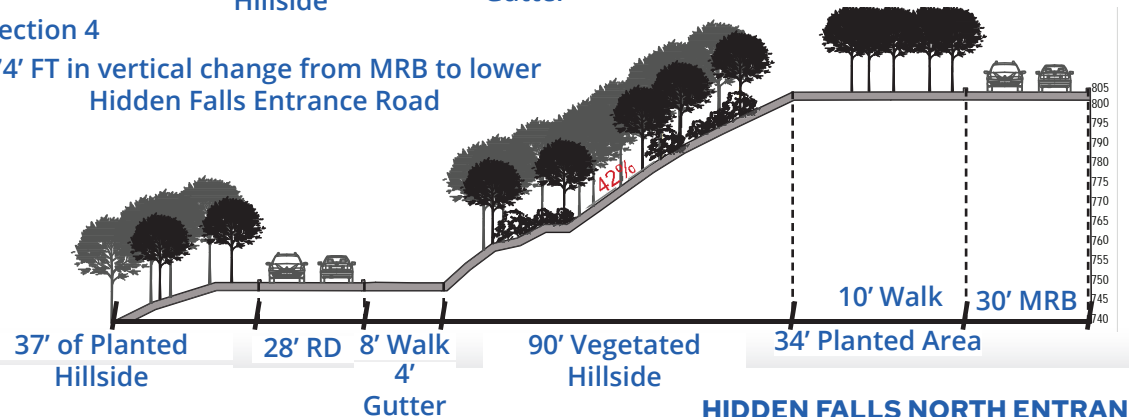
Section 2
67' FT in vertical change
from MRB to lower
Hidden Falls Entrance
Road



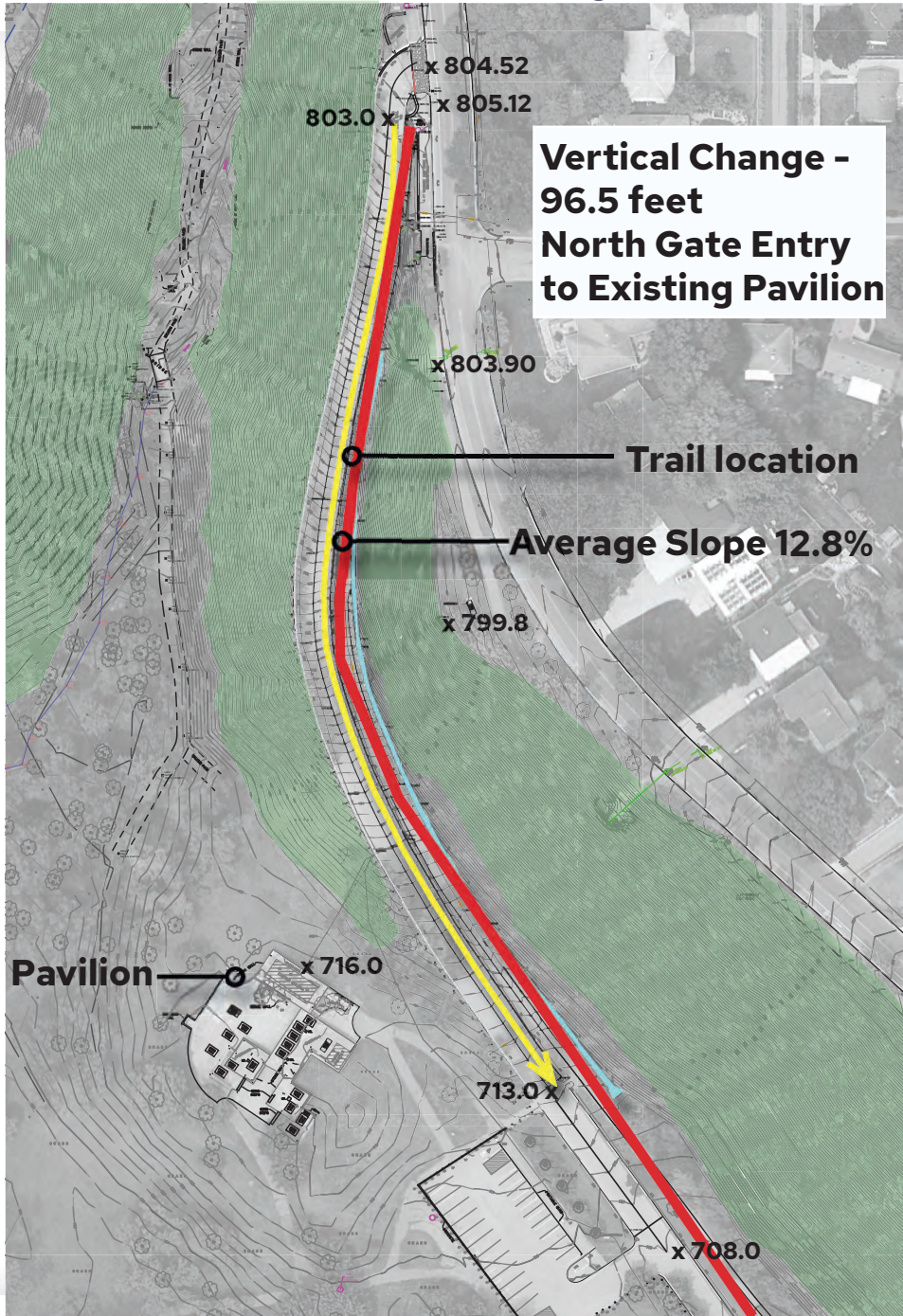
Section 3
71' FT in vertical change from MRB to lower Hidden Falls
Entrance Road



Section 4
74' FT in vertical change from MRB to lower
Hidden Falls Entrance Road



Site Entrance Analysis



Updates and Review

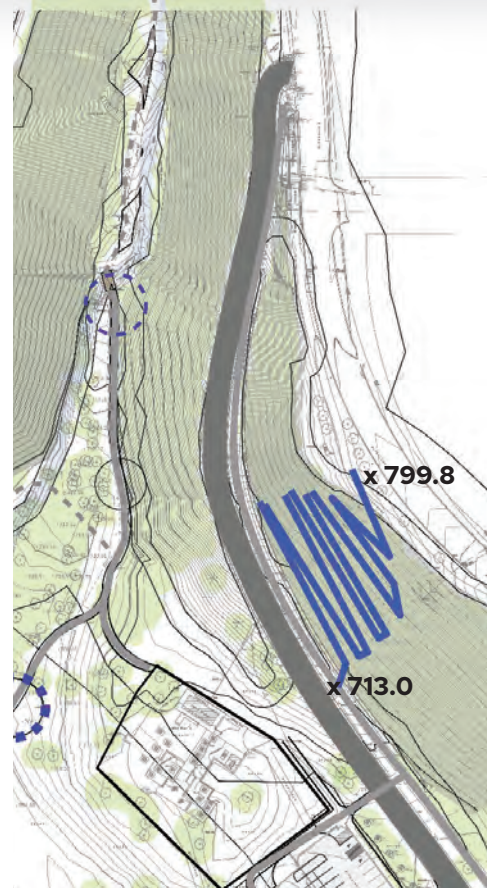


Diagram 1- Switchback Trail (5%)

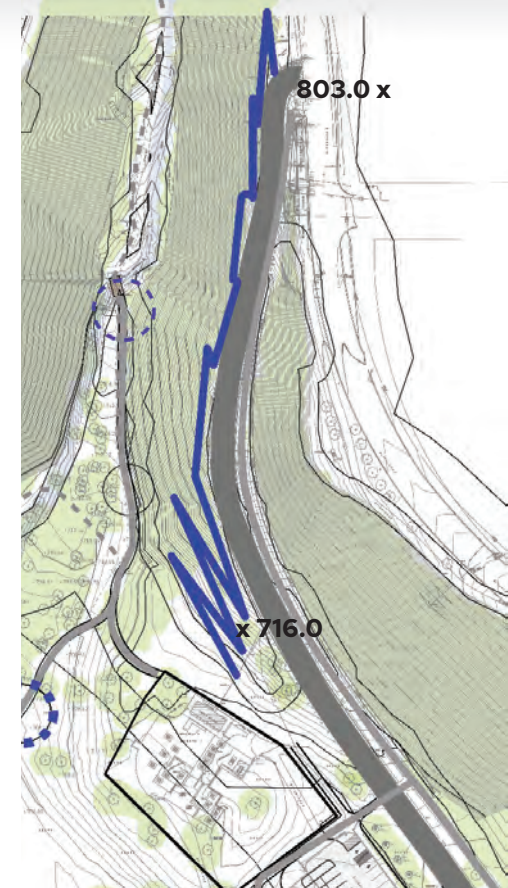


Diagram 2- Elevated Ramp (5%)

Legend

-  Slope Direction
-  Existing Trail
-  Dry Swale
-  Protected Bluff

Strategies:

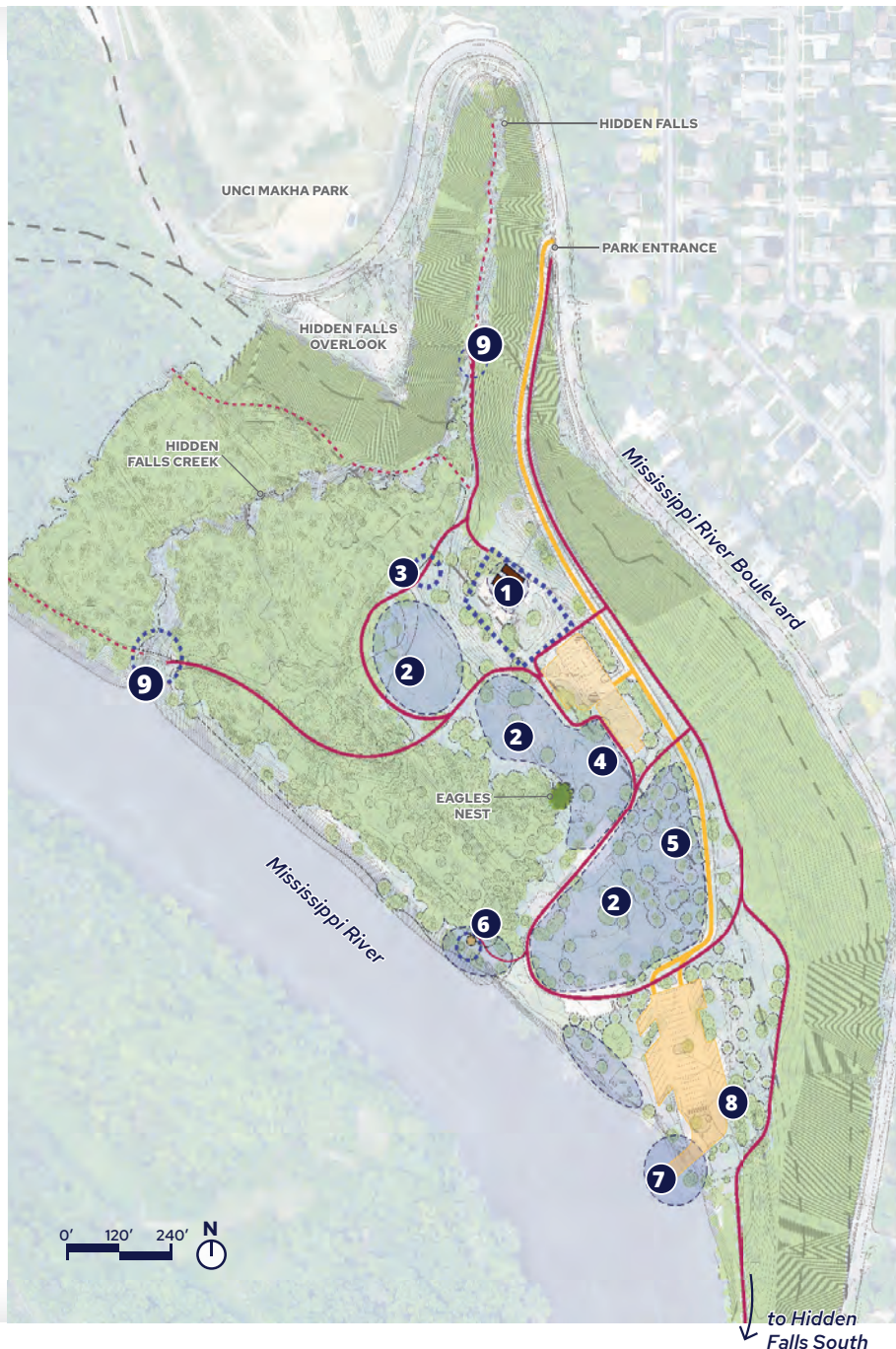
- Improve visibility at entrance
- Reconstruct wall and handrails
- Repave entry road and trail
- Protect sensitive bluff

- FORAGING
- CO-MANAGEMENT
- TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICERS
 - Prairie Island Indian Community
 - Lower Sioux Indian Community
 - Shakopee Mdewakantan Sioux Community
 - Upper Sioux Indian Community
- PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS



Site Plan

New Material Review and Discussion



Legend

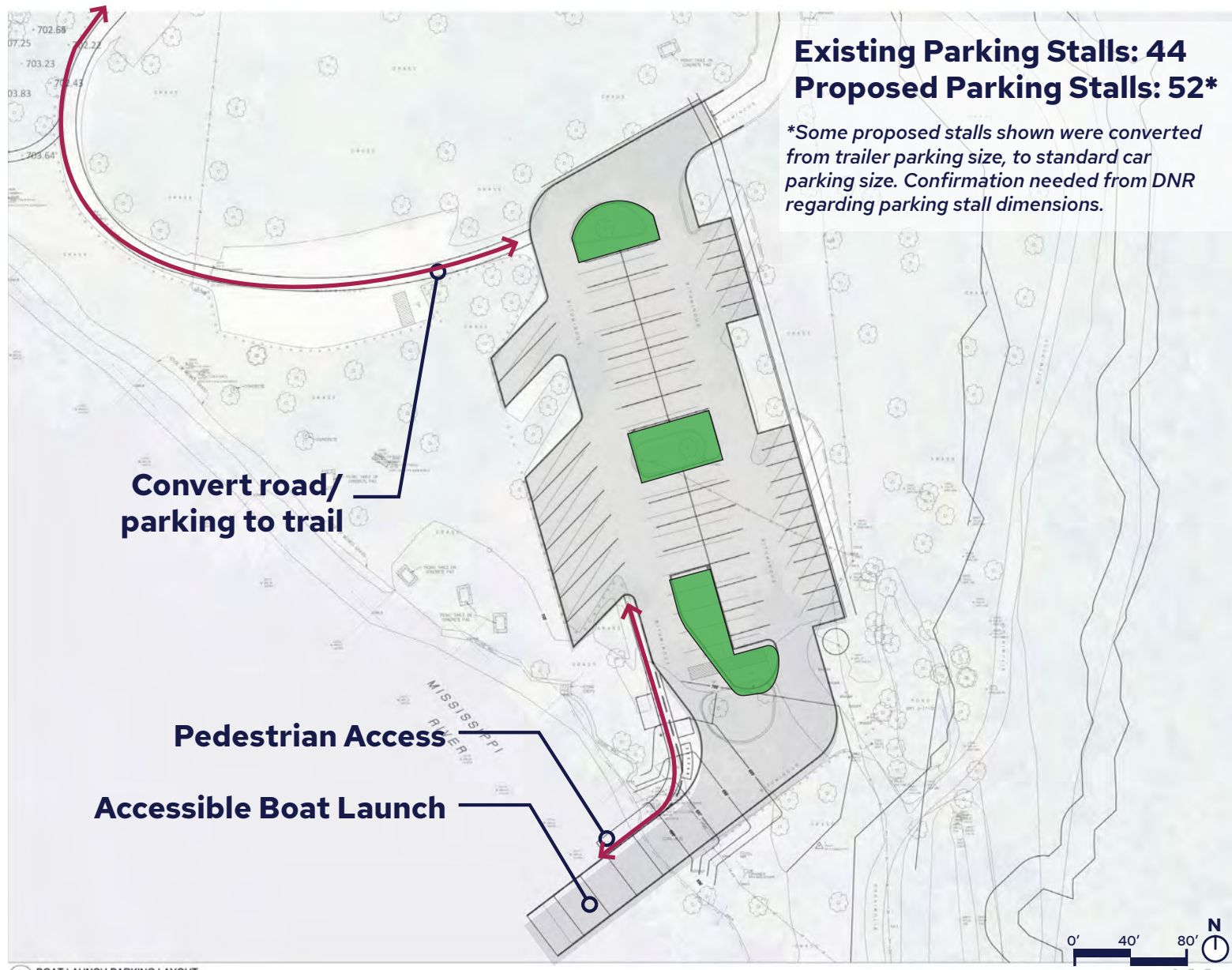
- Vehicular Route
- Primary Pedestrian Route (paved)
- ⋯ Secondary Pedestrian Route (unpaved)
- Parking Area
- Program Zones
- Approximate Existing Tree Canopy

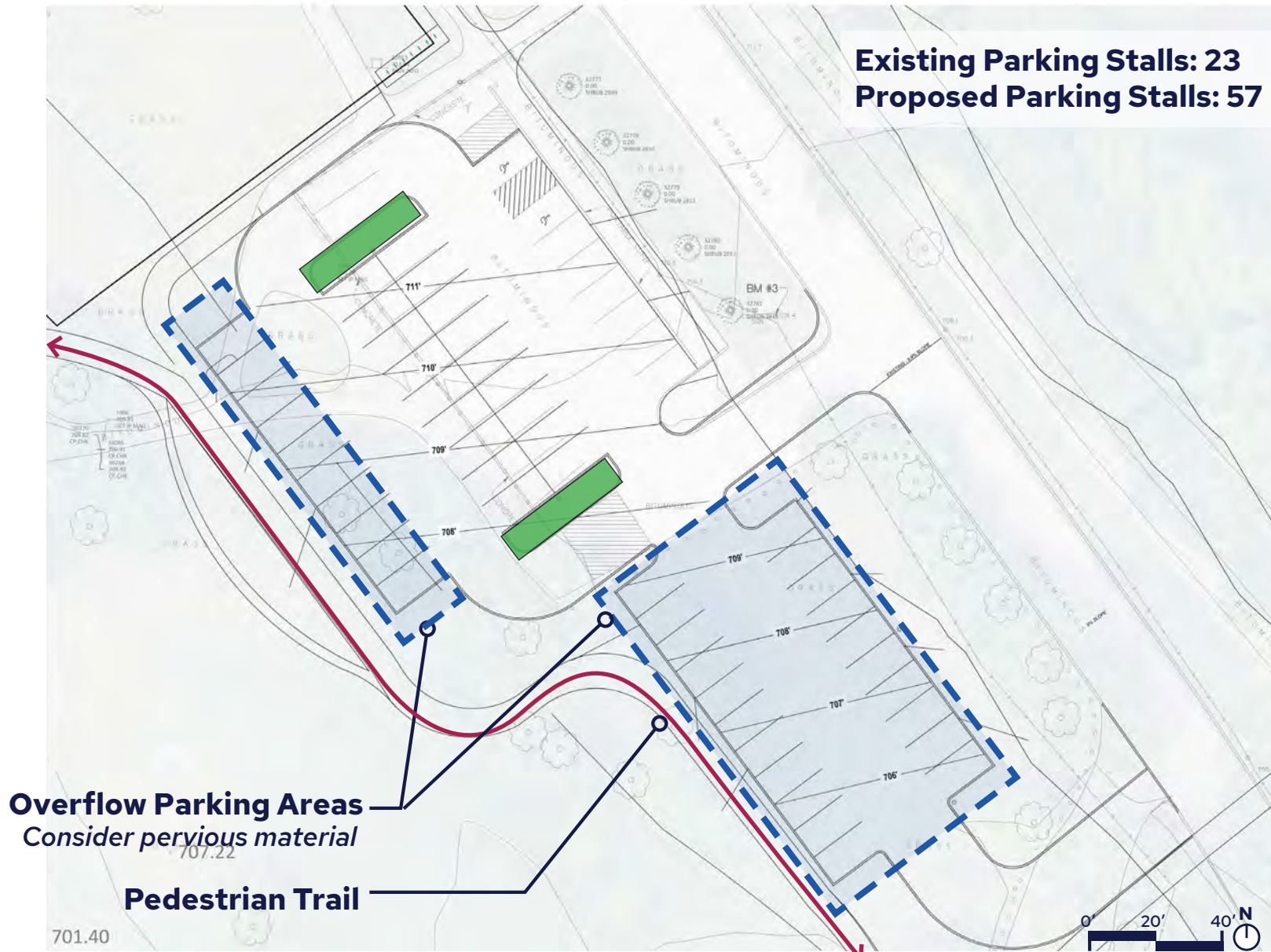
Program

- 1** Pavilion and Restroom
- 2** Open Space
- 3** Play Zone
- 4** Stormwater Management Area
- 5** Picnic Area
- 6** Cultural Space
- 7** Boat Launch - Motorized
- 8** Boat Storage- Kayak & Canoes
- 9** Bridge Replacement

DISCUSSION:

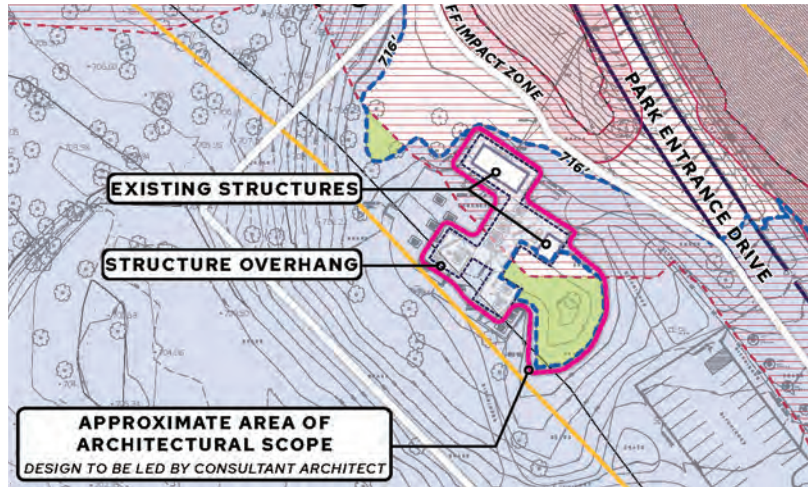
- What do you like or dislike about the proposed site plan?
- What could be improved?
- What's missing?





1 Pavilion and Restroom

New Material Review and Discussion



DISCUSSION:

- What is your top priority for a new pavilion structure?
- Do you have other questions or ideas for the architectural design team? (materials? artwork? style?)

PAVILION GOALS

- Improve accessibility - provide two new, gender-inclusive restroom facilities
- Accommodate seating capacity for 60 people (match existing)
- Provide storage for maintenance and operations equipment
- Upgrade electrical service to accommodate current and future park needs
- Incorporate flood resilient and other sustainable building strategies
- Rely on site context to provide inspiration for building character and materials
- Consider weather shelter
- Consider two separate "rental" areas

PRECEDENT PROJECTS



③ Nature Inspired Play Zone

New Material Review and Discussion

- LOG STRUCTURES
- BOULDERS
- SENSORY WALK
- WILLOW PLANTINGS

DISCUSSION:

- What do you like or dislike about the ideas shared?
- What other ideas do you have for nature inspired play?



6 Cultural Space

New Material Review and Discussion



Akta Lakota Museum & Cultural Center - Chamberlain, South Dakota



Oheyawahi - St. Paul, MN



Bdote - St. Paul, MN



Bde Maka Ska - Minneapolis, MN



Transfer Beach Park - Ladysmith, British Columbia

Cultural Spaces:

- Key considerations for designing a space that acknowledges Bdote:
- Proximity to the river, honoring its significance
- Opportunities for reflection and gathering
- Indigenous language to enhance sense of place
- Sacred geometries and colors to define cultural identity
- A "less is more" approach for simplicity and flexibility
- Consultation with Tribal and indigeneous leaders

Signage & Interpretation

New Material Review and Discussion



Enhancing wayfinding with culturally significant signage.



Interpretive signage providing historical and cultural context for site visitors.



Signage acknowledging the site's historical and present significance.



Promoting mindfulness and environmental stewardship through site amenities



Wayfinding honoring history and culture.

Standard Furnishings



Trash Receptacle



Bike Racks



Paddle Share Rental



Lighting



Metal Bench Seating



Picnic Tables



Canoe Storage Rack

Discussion

- Complete the form before March 14
"WHAT ARE YOUR PRIORITIES?"
 - Pedestrian Bridge Repair
 - Kayak Storage
 - Porta-potty enclosure
 - Trail resurfacing
 - Signage, lighting, wayfinding
 - Play zone (Nature based)
 - Picnic areas
 - Other
- COMMENTS, FEEDBACK, QUESTIONS
- Thank you for being here!

Hidden Falls CAC #3 _ Priority Improvements



Next Steps:

- Highland District Council Annual Meeting (April 10)
- CAC Meeting #4 (April/May - Date TBD)
 - » Introduce architecture team
 - » Further refinement of site plan
- OPEN HOUSE (Summer - Date TBD)
 - » Reveal Pavilion Design and Final Site Plan

